

## PAPER MEN PUZZLED

A MACHINE THAT EXPOSES THE TRICKS  
OF THE TRADE.

**Government Contractors Who Have Been Cur-  
tailing Quality and Strength of Material  
Furnished Exposed by a New Invention—  
Material That Breaks at Half Pressure.**

among the government stationery contractors by the quiet adoption by Postmaster General Gresham of his department of a newly invented paper tester. The developments so far made show that the government has been systematically swindled out of large sums in the quality of paper furnished for certain envelopes. The departments of the government are furnished with an "official envelope" which goes through the mail free. The post-office department has contracts with the successors to the Plymouth Paper Manufacturing Company, of New Haven, Conn. They furnish these envelopes for \$140,000 per annum. The paper, according to the contract, is to be of a certain grade. Departments

[illegible]

The machine, which is the invention of Messrs. E. Morrison, the paper dealer of this city, and James P. Herron, the well-known in-

The sample, about three inches in diameter, is first clamped by an embossing ring and a rounded punch connected with a delicate balance thrust under it. The weight on the scale beam is slid along until the latter falls through the disc of paper having been burst by the pressure. This is the test used by the British

To illustrate the importance of these tests it

contract with one firm, that supplying registered letter, dove letter, and office envelopes, amounts to \$140,000 per annum.

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**THE BEAUFORT AFFAIR.**

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**An Enjoyable Excursion to Marshall Hall Yesterday.**

The excursion of the Washington Light Infantry to Marshall Hall yesterday and last evening was beyond all question the event par excellence of the season thus far. Each year the Light Infantry excursions, are looked forward to with interest, and with the recurrence

The boat in the morning took down a very large number of persons who objected to being out after night, and desired to see the youngsters a final, and a few of them were taken to the moon. In the evening the rush began, and long before the hour announced for sailing both the Jans Moseley and the Corcoran were loaded to the very fullest limit allowed under the law, and the sale of tickets was peremptorily stopped. When at last the Moseley swung out from

river put the beautiful grounds of the arsenal, there were fully 1,600 people embarked on the two steamers, and the wharf behind was full of disappointed ones who were refused admittance on board. Who were not there on board the swiftly-gliding craft would be easier to tell than of those who were, and yet

the throats were too great to enable the pretty feet of the prettier girls to keep time in the dance with the excellent music of the hands on each boat. No accident of any kind occurred, and the merry pleasure-seekers passed the time in singing, or the fascinating quiet directions and conversations that seem

**EX-SPEAKER HULSE DYING.**  
A Former Prominent Figure in District Politics Passing Away.

the first cause of representatives of the district legislature, is lying very dangerously ill at his quarters, No. 1911 G street northwest, but at a late hour last night his disease had taken a turn for improvement, and he was then resting easier than for several days previously. He has not been of robust health for a number of years past, and last year, occupied the position

Corpus Christi, Tex., hoping that the climate there might improve him, but last November when he was taken worse, and since that time his lungs have rapidly failed. He came back to Washington early in June, but continued to grow worse, notwithstanding all that his physician, Dr. D. W. Hulse, could do for him, until last week, when he was attacked by a congestive chill, and sank so rapidly that Saturday and part of Sunday his

stated above. He is a native of New Utrecht, Staten Island, about 47 years of age, served in the 14th Brooklyn during the war, and his loss of health is due to exposure and hardship incident to this service, and for which he is a pensioner.

**AN ALARMING FIRE.**

Burning of a Frame House in a Central Lo-

Considerable excitement was caused by the discovery of fire in frame house No. 529 Eleventh street about 5:20 o'clock yesterday afternoon. There are several large dwellings and business houses in that section, and it was

fire was located in the roof of the house, which caught fire from the sparks of a small donkey engine used in connection with the adjoining large building being erected by W. B. Moses at the corner of Eleventh and P streets. The engine is situated only about ten yards from

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on the roof. An alarm was raised in room box 142, to which a portion of the department responded, and soon had the fire under control. The house was owned by W. B. Moore and was unoccupied. The damage was about \$250.

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**HOTEL PERSONALS.**  
Ex-Gov. Thomas Ryder, of Kansas, is at the

Hon. Leonard Myers, of Philadelphia, is at the Riggs house.

A. E. Tyler, New York; Dr. H. H. Bell, New York; George M. Jones, Pittsburg, Pa.; A. Newsom, Macon, Ga.; F. H. Baker, Lewisburg, Pa.; N. W. Wright, New York; H. C. Horkdel, Atlanta, Ga., and P. M. Barber, Philadelphia.

Hon. Thomas Cratty, Chicago, Ill.; B. Clark and H. L. Clark, Leavenworth, Kan.; S. Pocock, London, Eng.; S. L. Smith, U. S. N.; Lieut. F. S. Strong, 1st U. S. artillery, and C. Graham, of *Harper's Weekly*, N. Y., registered at the Ebbitt House yesterday.